

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 653 - HB 1534

March 14, 2021

SUMMARY OF BILL: Effective January 1, 2022, requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to approve alternate teacher endorsement and licensure pathways for current and prospective educators. Requires SBE to approve a process by which local education agencies (LEAs) can establish district teacher training programs, and requires the Department of Education (DOE) to review such training programs. Requires DOE to issue a practitioner license to teach in grades nine through twelve (9-12) to an applicant who meets certain education and work criteria.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures - \$2,279,100/FY21-22
\$371,400/FY22-23 and Subsequent Years**

Other Fiscal Impact – The extent and timing of any permissive increase in local government expenditures, if any, for development and execution of any district teacher training programs cannot reasonably be determined due to multiple unknown variables.

Assumptions:

- DOE will need to modify the TNCompass licensure system to accommodate for the creation of alternative teacher endorsements and licensure pathways.
- The Office of Educator Licensure (Office), within DOE, will need one Education Consultant 2 to review and analyze an estimated 3,000 to 5,000 additional applications for licensure and endorsement.
- One Education Consultant 2 will increase state expenditures by \$69,855 (\$54,120 salary + \$15,735 benefits).
- Based on development quotes from the current software vendor RANDA, the required changes to the TNCompass licensure system are estimated to cost \$1,507,716 for initial development with an additional \$301,543 in annual maintenance costs.
- The legislation will also require changes to educator preparation which will impact TNAtlas, the state-owned web application which operationalizes the process for initial and ongoing educator preparation program review and approval.
- Creating a separate process of review and approval for LEAs providing teacher training will require additional software development; it is assumed that three full-time contracted developers will be required.

- It is estimated that changes to TNAtlas and additional contracted personnel will result in a one-time increase to state expenditures of \$400,000.
- SBE will be able to establish minimum educational requirements needed for educators to participate in district teacher training programs. Any impact is estimated to be not significant.
- LEAs will be authorized to create district teacher training programs. Any program created is required to meet the minimum requirements established by SBE; however, due to multiple unknown variables such as the number of training programs which will be created, the scope of such training programs, and the extent of teacher participating, a precise permissive increase in local expenditures cannot reasonably be determined.
- The total one-time increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$2,279,114 (\$1,507,716 TNCompass + \$400,000 TNAtlas + \$301,543 TNCompass maintenance + \$69,855 position) in FY21-22.
- The total recurring increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$371,398 (\$301,543 TNCompass maintenance + \$69,855 position) in FY22-23 and subsequent years.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bojan Savic". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bojan Savic, Interim Executive Director

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